

a designation of retained counsel for defendant Linda Livolsi. Clerk's Record (CR) # 51. Mr. McDonald has continued to represent Ms. Livolsi since that time. On January 17, 2013, a status conference was held at which time Mr. McDonald's medical issues and surgery were discussed. (CR # 81)

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On April 23, 2013, the undersigned attempted to contact Mr. McDonald in an attempt to discuss a proposed plea agreement with Mr. McDonald after consultation with his client Ms. Livolsi. The government attempted to contact Mr. McDonald at the

address and phone number listed for Mr. McDonald in the Criminal Docket for this case and also with the State Bar of Nevada. When calling this phone number, the government was told that Mr. McDonald is "no longer with this firm." The government was given a cellular telephone number for Mr. McDonald and the government left a voice message for Mr. McDonald and requested a return telephone call. To date no response to the government's telephone message has been received. Attempts to contact Mr. McDonald have been unsuccessful. Mr. McDonald apparently does not currently maintain a discernable physical office location.

Defense attorneys have a duty to inform their clients of plea agreements proffered by the prosecution, and that failure to do so constitutes ineffective assistance of counsel. *United States v. Blaylock*, 20 F.3d 1458, 1465-66 (9th Cir. 1994). The government has lost contact with Mr. McDonald, counsel for defendant Linda Livolsi. The government does not know whether or not Ms. Livolsi would accept, reject or has even been apprised of any suggested plea agreement. The government would request that this court hold a status check hearing to confirm that Mr. McDonald still represents defendant Livolsi, that the court determine whether proposed plea agreements will be presented to Ms. Livolsi and that this court confirm a communication mode that will elicit a timely response from defense counsel representing Ms. Livolsi.

DATED this 24th day of April, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
DANIEL G. BOGDEN
United States Attorney

/s/ J. Gregory Damm
J. GREGORY DAMM
Assistant United States Attorney

Certificate Of Service I, J. Gregory Damm, hereby certify that I am an employee of the United States Department of Justice, and that on this day I served a copy of the following: GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR STATUS CHECK, upon counsel for all defendants appearing in this matter via the CM/ECF system, by electronically filing said request. /s/ J. Gregory Damm
Assistant United States Attorney
District of Nevada April 24, 2013 Dated: